

# The Washington Times

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FRANK A. MUNSEY

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1905.

## Civil Service for the District.

With light and playful gyrations the House of Representatives is wont each year to disport itself over the Civil Service Commission. But when weariness rings down the curtain on the pretty pastoral, the House goes diligently to work to appropriate money for the commission, and support the arms of the President in extending its influence.

How curious it is, then, that in all the twenty years this legislative farce has held the boards the House has never included the District offices in its comedy and never quietly provided that they, like the executive departments, should be operated according to the rules which govern business enterprises all over the world. Neither the House nor the Senate has ever given any sign of doing this. There is a suspicion, indeed, that the members of both bodies regard the District offices as too valuable for Congressional use, as they are now organized. So it is that the Commissioners are now urging on the attention of the two District Committees a reasonable and mild measure of civil service reform for the District.

It is sincerely to be hoped the bill may be passed. The District has suffered much in the past through appointments made for political ends and approved only by political expediency. Indeed, it continues to suffer from the same evil, and must always suffer from it until the means for such political appointments are withdrawn.

Civil service reform is not a panacea for all the diseases of municipal government. But it is a sure cure for short hours, idleness, general incompetency, insubordination, division of interest with political duties; and it would preclude the appointment of street crossing watchmen likely to be arrested for census frauds in Maryland and inspectors of street cleaning susceptible to "influence."

The whole number of persons affected would be about 1,000. This is at the rate of about two appointments per Congressman. It has happened that a small group of legislators, a very small group, in fact, has monopolized these plums. The District will be entirely satisfied if it can get the support of the men who have obtained no political advantage in this way. The bill would become law by an overwhelming majority.

But it is much to be feared these hopes are vain. It required the assassination of a President to effect the passage of the original civil service act, and it has required the executive strength of giants to enforce it ever since. The men who trade in political appointments are not more numerous in Congress than the men who believe in good government, but they are much more industrious and they get the results.

If Congress expects the District to be operated on half the funds it needs, if it plans to make every dollar do the work of two, if it expects from the Commissioners such a juggling of finances that they can pay for permanent improvements out of current revenues, it must expect, at least, to provide an efficient corps of clerks to do the work.

## Strenuous Mr. Maxwell.

George H. Maxwell made a warm speech to the Forest Congress, and while he did not mean everything he said, he left no doubt as to what he did mean. Mr. Maxwell was scoring Congress for refusal to consider the timber and stone act, the measure under which the Government has been so successfully robbed. He said the guilty members should be lashed at the cart's end with the whip of outraged national sentiment. The gentleman perpetrated a mixed metaphor. One can call to mind a real cart, and a bare-backed transgressor being dragged after it, but a man in such a position would need a real whip, too, in order to have the picture and reformation complete.

However, Mr. Maxwell voiced the general thought of the gathering, and his address was a series of sensible suggestions, most of them eminently practical. He demanded the creation of forest reserves, including every acre of public land more valuable for timber than for mining or agriculture; consolidation of forestry work under the Agricultural Department; the systematic planting of trees; repeal of the timber and stone act, and various other projects protective of the lumber interests.

The Forest Congress has been productive of good in arousing the interest of men so circumstanced as to make their beliefs effective or in crystallizing these opinions into a working method. The destruction of

forests has been criminal, aside from the gigantic stealing that has been involved. The part of it due to fire has been gross carelessness. As remarked the other day a man-made wilderness is something in which it is impossible to feel pride.

## Conviction of Watson.

Young Watson has been convicted of embezzlement on one of several counts. A wise course for him would be to take the penalty, and rely upon the mercy of the prosecution as to the remaining charges. For this man to have escaped would, in view of his known guilt, have been in the nature of a public calamity. It would have been a reflection upon the capacity of the courts, and a notable triumph for rogues.

The fight made for the freedom of Watson was purely technical, the one basis certainly destructive of public sympathy. Such a fight is at once a confession and an impudent defiance. It is the defendant saying: "Yes, I'm guilty, and don't care who knows it, and what are you going to do about it, anyway?" The real question was as to whether Watson had stolen a specified sum. What the process might have been termed was of not the slightest consequence. When a man is charged with embezzlement and answers that he stole money, but under such circumstances that the act was larceny, or introduces some other quibble equally senseless, the jury that would split hairs for the sake of acquitting him would be derelict in its duty. Theft is theft. Watson, whatever the precise term of the indictment, was accused of being a thief. The one province of the jury was to ascertain the truth of the charge. The members of the jury readily grasped the situation.

The young man who has a position of trust carrying with it a modest salary cannot hope to add to his income by systematic stealing for an indefinite time. There is always an end, with at least the punishment of ineffaceable disgrace. But one who has yielded to the temptation errs still further if, when caught, he brazenly attempts to defy the agency of correction.

## Points of Resemblance.

An offense defined by statute is the compounding of a felony. The theory of the law is that the man who commits a crime merits prescribed punishment. To shield him and cover up the crime is deemed to become accessory. When a man steals from an individual, and is apprehended, the right of the individual to settle the matter upon return of the loot is so seriously questioned that it cannot be done with safety. To do it is, in fact, to compound a felony.

Recently, an attaché of the Navy Department stole pay checks belonging to fellow-employees. The whole amount taken was \$295. Part of this was spent at once in riotous living, and the rest secreted. The offender confessed, and showed the place where part of the booty was concealed. The remaining shortage was \$150. It is understood that the offender has been dismissed from his position, with the intimation that if he will make restitution the incident will be regarded as closed. Are there not points of resemblance between this process and the compounding of a felony?

It is not the province of the press to bound anybody. The newspaper is not the conservator of morals to the point of directing prosecution. Yet, it is not bound to express admiration for a course that seems in contravention of good public policy. Perhaps this man will do better and be better if allowed to go free, but the example is pernicious. Laws are made for the protection of society, and they are effective only because of the penalty that follows transgression. Remove the penalty, and as well efface the statute.

## Price of a Life.

Murders in disputes over trifling sums of money are not rare. In many instances a man will become so enraged over the ownership of a nickel that he would rather kill his opponent than yield. However, it remained for an humble assassin at Waterbury to establish a precedent. The dispute arose over ten cents. A man had been playing billiards in a saloon. The bartender said that fifteen cents was due, but this seemed to hurt the dignity of the player, who insisted that he owed twenty-five cents. Herein was the element of novelty. Nobody heretofore had felt justified in shooting to establish the fact of his own indebtedness, but the player went to this unfortunate extreme. The bartender would not accept the proffered dime, but as to the fatal bullet he had no option. The slayer was arrested, and whether he really owed the ten cents will probably never be known.

Murder is always deplorable, but it seldom is absolutely silly. This one did not have a shadow of excuse. It resulted from nothing but the fact that a man with badly balanced brain was permitted to carry a deadly weapon. There is no reason why any person in ordinary employment in civilization, should be armed. Nothing but mischief grows out of being thus equipped. To draw a weapon on the hasty impulse of anger is to

run the risk of killing, thus practically destroying three lives.

This country leads the world in homicide. Its people are not more quarrelsome than others, nor more bloodthirsty. They have the habit of carrying weapons, and this comes nearer than any other fact to explaining the whole matter. The man who shoots another over a wrangle about ten cents must wake to a bitter realization that he has been a fool. Yet, other men will bulge their pockets with pistols and then fuddle their wits with drink.

## Seeking Counsel.

The President of the United States and the leading men of the nation holding seats in Congress are in conference this afternoon at the White House. They are talking about the necessities of the hour from a political, industrial, financial, and civic standpoint. To Senators the conference will seem like an executive session, while to members of the House the discussions will partake of the nature of a limited Ways and Means Committee meeting.

What the President is anxious to know, most of all, is the consensus of opinion on an extra session. For one of the President's aggressive temperaments, it is intolerable to say a thing ought to be done and then put off indefinitely the time for doing it. Far from wishing to dictate to Congress what it shall do or not do, partisans of the President feel convinced that he wishes to canvass the views of the leaders, openly, before one another, where each may speak in full or else forever after hold his peace. Then, open and aboveboard, with the basis of his judgment known to a dozen people, the President will determine when, if at all, to call the Congress in extra session.

## Points in Paragraphs.

Rogostevsky's flagship is reported to have struck a rock, but this may grow from the fact that the whole fleet struck a circumstance.

Publicity ought to secure absolute separation from the Dolge divorce case.

The Forest Congress will have good effect if it convinces lumbermen that extermination of timber is not only unwise but unnecessary.

Senator Bailey needs to have his attention called to the fact that the Constitution doesn't change like the weather.

What's the matter with Perdicaris as consul to Morocco?

Mr. Swift, one of the foremost packers, says there is no meat trust. Mr. Swift must be a jocular person.

War has been declared anew on mosquitoes, but their armies fight without regard to military rules.

New Mexico and Arizona would rather remain Territories than be taken in as one State. There seems no objection in paying some attention to their wishes.

Now the Kaiser is reported as saying to the Czar, "I told you so." If their friendship survives this test it's a good article.

A New York society girl arrested for shop-lifting was promptly found to be an innocent victim of kleptomania. Doubtless, however, she knows what was the matter with her.

## TARRED WITH SAME STICK.

To the Editor of The Washington Times: I was much interested in the article which appeared in the Times of Wednesday last, under the caption of "Incorporation Record of 1904," but the writer thereof either did not know, or neglected, several important items concerning the District of Columbia incorporation law.

First, while the Recorder of Deeds received only \$2,222 for recording these incorporations, he received also a like amount, with 25 cents additional for each certified copy of the charter, so that, as a matter of fact, the revenue was nearly \$5,000.

Again, the article states that there were but few local corporations—the fact of the matter is there are nearly 600 corporations doing business in Washington under this law, and they are tarred with the same stick as the outside fellow; in fact, they are more to be censured than the non-resident, for they are composed of well-known business men who do not pretend to comply with the plainest provisions of the law. Under section 617 the law says:

"Within twenty days from the last of January all companies are to make a report which shall be published in a newspaper in the District of Columbia, which shall state the amount of capital and of the proportion actually paid and the amount of the existing debts, which report shall be signed by the president and a majority of the trustees, and shall be verified by affidavit of the president or secretary of the company, and filed in the office of the Recorder of Deeds of the District."

Well, of the "329 other incorporation papers consisting of annual statements, etc." which your article speaks of, less than twenty were from local corporations. These concerns simply ignored the plain letter of the law because the penalty for failure to comply with it was not severe enough to make them do so.

They are perfectly willing to have the public at large read upon their signs and stationery that they are incorporated for thousands of dollars, but they are not willing to state what they actually have paid in or owe. Now, Mr. Editor, I submit that any man who desires the prestige and advertisement that he gets from operating his business as a corporation, should be made to comply with the regulations governing corporations, and, if he does not, he should be made the law compelling him to do so, as in the case in West Virginia and other States. I do not see why a man living and doing business in Washington should be any more exempt from the law than the man who hails from New York, Philadelphia, and other places.

This law was enacted by Congress and should be enforced in some particulars. The filing fees could very well be increased, but they should not be made prohibitive to gratify the wishes of anybody.

The Recorder of Deeds gets fully as much for the service performed from incorporating fees as any other class of papers filed.

REAL ESTATE DEALER.  
Washington, January 5, 1905.

# IN SOCIETY'S CIRCLE

## DINNER IN HONOR OF BARON KANEHO

Japanese Noblemen Guest of Charles J. Bell.

## DATES FOR FEW RECEPTIONS

Social Gossip of the Day and Coming Events—Mr. Bache's Surprise Party.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Bell will entertain a dinner party tonight in honor of Baron Kaneho, of Japan. The baron, who has just arrived here, is a member of the Japanese house of peers, and a dignitary of great distinction in his own country.

Mrs. Herbert Wadsworth will be hostess at a tea this afternoon in compliment to Miss Ames, of Boston, who is her guest.

Mr. and Mrs. Becker will entertain a small dinner party tonight.

The first Assemblies' ball in Philadelphia last night was one of the most brilliant ever given there.

Among the Washington people who attended it were Miss Catharine Langhorne, Miss Eleanor Hoyt, Marshall Langhorne, Lieutenant Gault, S. B. M. Young, William Sands, and Prince de Bearn, of the French embassy.

Chaplain and Mrs. Couden will be at home to their friends, 1310 Columbia Road, Saturdays, from 3 to 6, during January and February.

Mrs. David Day will be at home Saturdays in January.

Mrs. Robert B. Armstrong will be at home from 5 to 7 this evening.

Lieutenant General and Mrs. Chaffee will give a dinner in honor of the French Ambassador and Mme. Jusserand January 15.

## COUNT MOLTKE SAILS.

Count Moltke, who came to this country to visit his wife, Countess Moltke, now the guest of her mother, Mme. Bonaparte, and to serve at the wedding of the Netherlands minister and Miss Glover, sailed for Europe today.

Mrs. Borden will give a small tea for the student officers of the Army Medical School, Saturday, from 4 to 6 o'clock.

Mrs. Hannis Taylor and Miss Taylor, of 2018 O Street, will be pleased to see their friends the Saturdays in January.

Miss Irene Wood, of Brooklyn, N. Y., who is being educated at the Notre Dame Convent, Baltimore, Md., is spending the holiday season with her aunt, Mrs. Louis P. Shoemaker.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Bache, 125 Eleventh Street northwest, was last evening the scene of a most enjoyable surprise party given to Mr. Bache on his fifty-first birthday, by the business men of the District. The house was lavishly decorated for the occasion, and supper was served.

Mr. Bache was the recipient of many gifts. Among those present were Mr. Johnson, W. T. Gallier, Charles Gallier, Mr. Jones, Mr. Moore, Mr. Espey, Mr. Herbert, Mr. Schumacher, Mr. Isel, Mr. Lamborne, Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Viehmann, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Derrick, Mr. Speehause, Mr. Martig, Mr. Geogler, Mr. Walker, Mr. Riggles, and Mr. Hodkins. The program of the evening consisted of music and speechmaking.

Gen. and Mrs. George L. Gillespie were the principal guests at a dinner last night with Mr. and Mrs. Francois Berger Moran as hosts, others present being Gen. and Mrs. George F. Elliott, Admiral and Mrs. Mason, Commander and Mrs. Chapin, Lieutenant Commander and Mrs. Milton Higgins, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Campbell.

This dinner was one of the prettiest affairs of the winter, the table decorations being in royal poinsettias, the scarlet color being carried out in the fees, in the form of New Year bells, and in the confetti.

Mrs. Moran wore a gown of black velvet with diamonds, and her daughter, Mrs. Hudgins, who is spending the winter with her, was attired in yellow velvet and lace.

Mrs. Edson Bradley is entertaining Miss Hull, of Tuxedo, for whom she gave a tea at her apartments at the Highlands yesterday afternoon. Mrs. Metcalf and Miss Anita Poor did the honors of the tea room, with Mrs. Reamy assisting. Mr. and Mrs. Bradley will give a luncheon in Miss Hull's honor Sunday and a dinner Tuesday.

Mrs. Lloyd Chandler was hostess at an attractive tea yesterday afternoon, when she was assisted by her mother, Mrs. S. B. Edson, and Mrs. Charles S. Bromwell. Mrs. Thomas Fuller did the honors of the tea table.

## EMINENT GUESTS AT WHITE HOUSE

Editors Sit at the Board With President.

## MRS. AUDENREID IS HOST

Dinners, Luncheons, and Teas Consume the Time of the Gay World.

The guests at dinner at the White House last evening were President Alderman, of the University of Virginia; Judge Jones, of Alabama; Silas McKee, editor of the "Churchman"; Dr. Lyman Abbott, editor of the "Outlook"; Judge J. N. Dickinson, Major John Byrne, Thomas Nelson Page, and Francis E. Leupp, Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Mrs. Morton entertained at a small luncheon today.

Secretary of War and Mrs. Taft were the guests of honor at a dinner last night with Mrs. M. E. Audenreid as hostess. Senator and Mrs. McKim, General and Mrs. William F. Draper, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne MacVeagh, Mrs. Alfred E. Bates, General Woodhull, and Major Russell were the others who dined.

Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Paul Morton were hosts at a dinner party last night, when their ranking guests were the Italian ambassador and Baroness Mayor des Planches. The other guests were Senator and Mrs. G. P. Wetmore, Senator and Mrs. Foraker, Assistant Secretary of War Robert Shaw Oliver, Senator and Mrs. Foraker, General Crozier, Mrs. George Chalmers, of Chicago; Miss Keen, Mrs. Kepp, Miss Williams, Commander Gibbons, Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Glover, and Colonel Bidde.

Mrs. Hitchcock, wife of the Secretary of the Interior, entertained at luncheon yesterday. Mrs. Paul Morton, Mrs. Comings, of Philadelphia; Mrs. Frederick Henry Betts, of New York; Mrs. M. E. Audenreid; Mrs. Chalmers, of Chicago; Mrs. Thomas W. Symons, of New York; E. Bates, Mrs. Francis J. Higginson, Miss Hegeman, Mrs. Arnold Hague, Mrs. McGowan, Mrs. Wayne MacVeagh, and Miss Anne Hitchcock.

## In the Fairbanks Home.

Vice President-elect and Mrs. Charles W. Fairbanks entertained at the second of their series of dinners last night, having as guests Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. Shaw, Justice and Mrs. Henry B. Brown, Senator and Mrs. Scott, Senator Warren, Miss Warren, Senator Bacon, General and Mrs. Chaffee, Representative and Mrs. Dalzell, Representative and Mrs. Martin, E. Olmsted, Representative and Mrs. Charles H. Grosvenor, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Spencer and Miss Sherrill.

## MR. CARROLL WEDS MARY E. ZIER

A quiet wedding was solemnized by the Rev. Father O'Brien at the parsonage of St. Peter's Church, Wednesday evening, at 7:30 o'clock, the contracting parties being Miss Mary E. Zier, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Zier, and Francis M. Carroll.

The bride was prettily attired in white albatross trimmed with rare lace over white silk and carried a large shower bouquet of carnations. Miss Nettie Gates acted as bridesmaid, and was also becomingly attired in white, carrying carnations; the groom was attended by his brother, Bernard Carroll.

Following the marriage ceremony the bridal party held a reception at the residence of the bride's parents, 183 F Street northeast, the bride and groom receiving the congratulations of their many friends. The parlors were beautifully decorated with ferns, palms and cut flowers.

The evening was spent in music and recitations. Miss Susan V. Jost recited by special request of the bride. A piano solo by the Misses Lusby and recitation by Franklin Jost. Refreshments were served.

Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Zier, Mrs. Kate Carroll, Mrs. Pickling, Mrs. Henryon, Mrs. Fowler, Mrs. Daniels, Mrs. R. Redden, Mrs. Wills, Mrs. Lynch, Mrs. Charles W. Ashford, Mr. and Mrs. John Jost, Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Jost, Mr. and Mrs. Farrell, Mr. and Mrs. Lusby, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Zier, Mrs. Spellburn, Misses Julia and Annie Pickling, Miss Alice Hanger, Miss Ada Alexander, Misses Annie and Elizabeth Carroll, Misses Susie and Evaline Jost, the Misses Lusby, Miss Gay Dyer, Miss Clara Gates, Miss Minnie Witts, Miss Nettie Gates, Miss Ellen Horan, Miss Frances Walton, Miss Alta Smith, Miss Ruth Hollinger, Miss Nellie Karriek, Edward Hanger, William Jost, William Zier, Henry Zier, Charles Zier, Jr., William Carroll, Dyer Carroll, William Fowler.

Upon their return to the city after

# IN THE BOOK WORLD

## Story Ran Away With Him.

Sir Gilbert Parker, author of "A Lad of Swords," tells an interesting story of his first conception of that earlier success of his, "The Right of Way." He had planned the story for about 17,000 words, it seems, and had concentrated all his effort on keeping it short.

On a steamer bound for America he met a member of the Harper firm, and described the story to him. They sat on deck most of one night talking over the character of Charley Steele, as the author had studied the original. The story then unnamed, was accepted then and there, and Sir Gilbert hurried into the Canadian wilderness to write it. He expected to do it in a month, but as he worked the scheme changed, and before that time was past there were more than the 17,000 words, and the end was nowhere in sight.

He wrote to the Harpers and explained that the story had taken the bit in its mouth and was running away. They replied: "Let it run." The result was a great novel, more than 100,000 words in length.

## Another Literary Appointment.

In the nomination of George R. Horton, of Illinois, for the United States consulship at Athens, Greece, President Roosevelt has honored another literary man.

Mr. Horton is well known in the Chicago and Washington newspaper worlds. His popular novel, "Like Another Helen," attracted the President's attention and it is doubtless to this that his appointment is due. As its title indicates, the scene of the story is laid in Greece. Mr. Horton got the material and atmosphere in Athens some years ago, when he served there as consul under President Cleveland.

A man wins tremendous success in business only by making it the one great passion of his life. Almost always his wife is left to live on the crumbs which fall from the table of her successful rival.

"I sometimes wonder if the wife of a great business man was ever a happy woman," writes one of the characters in Henry M. Hyde's new novel, "The Buccaneers." "I wonder whether the excesses, the follies, the absurdities of so many rich women do not deserve pity, rather than anger and indignation? Are they not the vain and frantic efforts of women whose soul-lives have been starved, to convince the watching world that they are after all, happy and to be envied? A man wins tremendous success in business only by making it the one great passion of his life. Almost always his wife is left to live on the crumbs which fall from the table of her successful rival."

Two women, after reading the book, have written to the author in regard to the letter from which the above quotation is made. One of these correspondents, who does not sign her letter, writes that she is a never and a mother calls "the foolish and entirely incorrect view of life" which it presents. "Your acquaintance with women of wealth and refinement is, I feel, extremely limited," she says, "else you would not be responsible for such misleading and false conclusions." The second correspondent, who is herself a prominent club woman and the wife of a man of wealth, sends a hearty endorsement of the letter. "It's true," she says, "I'm sorry to say it, but it is every word of it true."

## Wearing and Wiggling.

When John Duke, Lord Coleridge, lord chief justice of England, was in this country several years ago, he was entertained by the bar association of New York. The conversation fell on the subject of the custom of English judges wearing wigs, and some of the younger members of the association began to badger him in a little mild fun at their guest's expense, asking him if it were to keep from being prejudiced by hearing the evidence that judges in

January 10, Mr. and Mrs. Carroll will be at home to friends at 133 F Street northeast.

## Wedding and Engagement.

Mrs. Blandina R. Lutz announces the marriage of her daughter, Blandina E. Altrup, to Asa M. Janney, of Purcellville, Va., today. Owing to the recent death of the bride's father, William F. Lutz, only the immediate family were present.

Mr. and Mrs. Janney left town for an extended trip through the South and will be pleased to see their friends after a positive interest on nearly every phase of his subject. He is particularly successful in outlining the educational work done by the executive departments.

Still further interest in this handbook will be aroused by the statement that the price is only 30 cents.

## Another Life of Roosevelt.

A life of the President, sufficiently described by its title, "Triumphant Life of Theodore Roosevelt," has been published by J. Martin Miller, a well-known Washington newspaper correspondent. The work is evidently designed for popular consumption. It is written out of frank admiration for the subject, is phrased in the simplest possible language, and is illustrated with numerous photographs.

The book strikes out along a new line. Instead of the usual "born, educated, studied for the bar, practiced law, was elected to office," it presents at the outset a picture of Theodore Roosevelt as the President, head over heels in work, yet actively interested in a thousand subjects. Then follow sections on the President in his home, the President as a reformer, the President's tour of the West, the story of the Chicago convention, and a brief sketch of the President's associate on the Republican ticket.

The publishers are the Monard Book Company, of Chicago and Philadelphia.

## HEAVY SNOWSTORM SWEEPS OVER ITALY

ROME, Jan. 7.—Severe cold continues in the principal towns of Italy. A heavy snow fell in Naples and in Bari. The rivers Orno, Odige, and Cevere are frozen over.

## She Had Her Lobster Well Done.

